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**WILL DRAIN THE EVERGLADES**

The Proposition Will Go On to a Conclusion

A letter from Tallahassee says: Realizing the feasibility of the drainage of the Everglades, the trustees of the internal improvement fund have advertised for bids for excavating canals in this great swamp, which will prove a most important work.

The completion of this particular work means a great deal for Florida, as thousands of acres of land will be thus made ready for cultivation. These bids will be received up to noon, December 22nd, and must be addressed to Governor Albert Gilchrist, chairman of the trustees of the internal improvement fund, and plainly marked, "Proposals for drainage."

**The Proposals**

Each proposal must cover excavation of 200 lineal miles of canal 40 to 100 feet wide, and 6 to 10 feet deep, or such other width or depth as the trustees may in their discretion determine upon, price per cubic yard of excavation and time bidder will be ready for actual work. The successful bidder will be required to give sufficient bond under contract to complete work within time limit. The price agreed upon per cubic yard will be paid in cash as the work progresses. The contractor is to furnish everything required and no advance payments are to be made. The trustees reserve the right to contract for more or less excavating, not less than 100 miles, and to reject any and all bids.

It is thus seen that the state administration is back of the great work, and the success of the wonderful project now seems assured. In fact, recent developments show the drained lands in the Everglades to be the richest in the world, and thousands of people all over the country are interested in their cultivation, as is shown by the numerous investments recently made.

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The Thrice-a-Week World's regular subscription price is only \$1 per year, and this pays for 156 papers. We offer this unequalled newspaper and the Ocala Banner (Weekly) together for one year for \$1.65.

The regular subscription price of the two papers is \$2. 10-29.

Never in the history of Bradenton and Manatee county has there been such great activity along lines of improvement calculated to bring this section to the front. Fruit and truck lands are being purchased almost daily by new settlers. These are being cleared and made ready for cultivation of crops that will greatly add to the wealth of the county.—Bradenton Journal.

**THE FATE OF THE REFORMERS**

The Charleston News and Courier takes a somewhat original view of the late elections in saying that they affected national politics only by turning down the reformers. There is enough evidence to support this view—Jerome came into power as a reformer and he has been trodden into the dust; Heney was one of the most conspicuous, especially endorsed by Roosevelt, and he went down; the reformers of Philadelphia proved their charges, but were beaten; Tom Johnson is a back number, and the same story was written in New Jersey. What are we to understand? The question is of national interest because the divergence of President Taft from the exact line of the Roosevelt policies has already brought out a call for a return from Africa as if in protest against the attempt to clean out the New York sugar gang in politics as well as the refusal to turn out Ballinger.

Have the people wearied of reform and concluded to accept the evils that they have rather than rush forward to evils that they know not of? Does the turning of the tide discredit the people by implying their disregard for honesty and decency in politics, or does it discredit the reformers for their failure to make good? Our contemporary seems to conclude that the reformers were not politicians and promised more than they could perform; thereupon they have lost the support of practical people.—St. Augustine Record.

Editor Walpole waxes hot because of a letter alleged to have been written by Mr. Gillette of the Florida Citrus Exchange, and now in the possession of Editor Harris of the Ocala Banner. Never mind if he did reflect upon the state press. Do not kick the exchange. It is young, and may make mistakes just like the buyers and commission men have done. If the organization succeeds it will help all classes, including the newspapers. Just now, it has difficulties, without the opposition of the press. Newspapers can stand abuse and misrepresentation from men who are earnestly fighting to better conditions among the orange growers. We are not mad one bit.—Arcadia News.

The Ocala Banner is not mad, either. It does not think that there should be any differences between the exchange and the newspapers, and if there be any it should drop right where it is.

If only half of what the Enid (Okla.) Events says be true the administration of democratic government in that state is driving out capital and industrial enterprises at a rate that is fearful to contemplate. We fear that the depopulation of cities and towns and the abandonment of farms must be something awful. All because the majority of good people out there cannot see the blessings in a high protective tariff that feeds the few off the many. We have the administration of the laws in the hands of democrats in Florida, but it presents no such picture as poor Oklahoma. Here immigration is coming in and industrial enterprises are being established. Come to Florida, you Oklahomians, grow up with the country and be happy.

Gadsden county tobacco growers formed an organization at a meeting held in Havana last week. They will endeavor to better conditions by organized effort.

**COME ON OUT AND TELL US**

The race for United States senator is young yet—in fact, it is immature. It has all along been extremely doubtful to the Tribune if south Florida, with its vast and increasing interests, its large share of the state's population and voting strength, its many projects requiring governmental aid, would permit the contest to continue long without taking a hand in it.

With the hold-over senator from Jacksonville and with three of the candidates also from that city—two avowedly and one actually, although nominally from Tallahassee—and the two other candidates from Pensacola, it is by no means an important question to ask: "Where does all the rest of the state come in?"

It is not surprising, then, to learn that a movement is actually on foot in south Florida to bring out a candidate for the senate. As the Tribune understands it, this movement has assumed definite form, with only one thing lacking—the consent of the prospective candidate.

All of which indicates that the make-up of the approaching contest isn't complete by any means, and that the enumeration of fowls previous to their incubation now in process in the political poultry-yard may be found to be entirely too premature for practical purposes.

Now, don't ask us any questions, because we positively will not tell.—Tampa Tribune.

Seven candidates for sexton of Key West. Since Henry M. Flagler put his money and his brains down that way, Key West is waking up to the fact that there is life in the old land yet, consequently many funerals are anticipated during the new era. The "dead ones" will be buried fast and deep. Apalachicola needs a Flagler, for it goes without the saying that we have "dead ones" here in plenty and they will need to be moved out so that the "live ones" can do something.—Apalachicola Times.

It is a fair inference from the last issue of Albert Williamson's "Floridian" that ex-Governor Broward has a rocky road ahead of him in his campaign for the senate. Albert wields a caustic and, at times, a merciless pen, and he apparently intends to go the limit with it in his fierce opposition to the candidacy of the ex-governor. He will not attack Broward's private life, but proposes to handle his public record in a way that will make the public sit up and take notice.—Live Oak Democrat.

Mr. Bryan writes to his Circle Magazine that his first ambition was to be a Baptist preacher, his next a farmer; then he wanted to be a lawyer, and went through college with that as his paramount incentive; he then wanted to be an editor. It is unfortunate that his ambition has never been gratified. He is a platform lecturer.

A movement is on foot in Tallahassee to extend the city's limits. They will extend but a mile from the state capitol, although they were set there long ago and the country is thickly settled for a long distance in every direction.

Old Mother Hubbard,  
She went to the cupboard,  
As always had been her habit.  
"I can't afford beef,"  
She murmured, with grief,  
So she made her poor dog a welsh rabbit.  
—Chicago Tribune.

**Strawing Roads**

Orange county's commissioners show their wisdom by paying attention to the modest "straw" road, as well as the more aristocratic clay and marl-surfaced highways. The commissioners at their recent meeting ordered some miles of new straw road laid, and also authorized the superintendent of roads to repair as rapidly as possible all such roads as stood in need of attention.—Orlando Sentinel.

**A Vital Question**

"Then we start with a capital stock of \$2,000,000?" inquired the first promoter.

"We do," said the second promoter.

"One more question."

"Ask as many as you like."

"Have we enough of that capital stock paid in to take us to lunch?"—Louisville Courier-Journal.

The Homestake gold mine, in which the Hearst estate owns a controlling interest, has posted notices that in future no union workmen will be employed. Normally the Homestake employs 2500 miners.

The Atlanta Journal says that Greece is the Hayti of Europe. Revolutions are pulled off there about as quickly as in the negro republic.



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